shown industrial development potential and what, according to the appraisal, if any, are the achievements made so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) 300 districts have been identified as industrially backward by the Central Government.

(b) The nature of industrialisation depends upon the area concerned.

(c) The amount of Central Investment Subsidy reimbursed to various States/Union Territories is given below:

Years	Amount Rs. Crores
1972-85	291.75
1985-86	101.27
1986-87	125.12
1987-88	154.35
1988-89 (upto 28-7-88)	25.75

(d) Industrialisation is a continuous process. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned to make appraisals about the industrial potential of any districts/area and set up industries there. However the Central Government supplements their efforts by providing incentives/concessions etc. These concessions/incentives have helped the entrepreneurs to set up industries in backward areas as may be evident from the following number of letters of intent (LOI) Industrial Licences (IL). Delicensed Industries Registrations (DLR) and D.G.T.D. Registrations issued to backward districts/ areas in different States/Union Territories in the country during the last three years:

Year	LOI	IL	DLR	DGTD Regns.
1985	774	427	681	1140
1986	621	278	1483	610
1987	534	192	1097	651

Industries have already come up not only in Category B and Category C Districts but also in many of the Category A Districts.

Utilisation of total natural gas

1454. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:
SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that natural gas worth crores of rupees is being flared due to non-fixation of priority for its utilisation;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to use the gas; and

(c) by when total gas will be utilised instead of part of it being flared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) The major reasons for flaring of gas are:

(i) Lack of adequate compression facilities in the Western Offshore region.

(ii) Delay on the part of committed consumers to complete their projects and

(iii) Low offtake by existing consumers.

The following steps have been taken to reduce flaring:

(i) Compression facilities have been augmented and are proposed to be augmented further.

(ii) Fall back consumers are being encouraged so that they can take the gas when the regular consumers fail to do so. A 15 per cent discount on the basic price of gas for fall-back consumers is available.

(iii) Additional consumers have been developed in Assam where the offtake by the regular consumers has been very low. Presently the total commitment exceeds production of gas in Assam.

As a result of these measures, flaring of gas has been reduced over the last four years. Flaring of gas as a percentage of production has come down from 42 per cent in 1984-85 to 30 per cent in 1987-88.

Declining trend of oil production

1455. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that oil production at the Bombay High oil-field has shown a declining trend;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there has been a sharp rise in the gas-oil ratio as well as sick wells; and

(c) what has been the rated capacity and actual achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) There is a marginal reduction in crude production in Bombay High Offshore fields which is normal in any reservoir with passage of time. A number of measures have been taken to maintain/increase the production by,

— Use of enhanced recovery techniques.

— Intensification of work-over operations.

— Use of artificial lift mechanism.

— Closer spacing of wells.

(b) There has been some rise in the gas-oil ratio.

(c) The target of crude production from Bombay High offshore fields during 1987-88 was 19.92 million tonnes and the actual achievement was 20.16 million tonnes. The target for current year is 20.88 million tonnes.

Setting up of petrochemical project in Andhra Pradesh

1456. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for the setting up of a large petro-chemical project in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether any foreign technical collaboration is envisaged;

(c) whether any foreign equity participation is expected; and

(d) what would be the capacity proposed and the project outlay?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) Some applications for the setting up of a Petro-chemical Complex at Visha-Khapatnam in Andhra Pradesh have been received. Final decision on these applicantions will be taken in due-course based on techno-economic considerations. The details of such applications are not disclosed till the final decision is taken on them.

Plans for industrialisation of backward and rural areas of the country

1457. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans for industrialisation of both the backward and the rural areas in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Industrialisation is a continuous process. The entrepreneurs setting up industries in the industrially backward districts (including rural areas falling in these districts) are eligible for grant of Central Subsidy as per details given below:—

Category 'A'	25 per cent Subjcet to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs (Rs. 50 lakhs for setting up electronic industries in hilly districts of Category 'A').
Category 'B'	15 per cent (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs.